**Circulatory System Handout**

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**Main function:**

The circulatory system consists of three independent systems that works together; the heart, (cardiovascular), lung (pulmonary), and arteries, veins, coronary and portal vessels (systemic). The system is responsible for the flow of blood, nutrients, oxygen, and other gases, and as well as hormones to and from cells.

**Organs with in the circulatory system:**

**Blood:**

* An average adult has 5 to 6 quarts of blood, which is made up of plasma, red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets.

**Blood vessels:**

* The system of blood vessels in the human body measure about 60,000 miles. The systemic circulation is a major potation of the circulatory system. The network of veins, arteries and blood vessels transports oxygen and nutrients to the body’s cells and then returns deoxygenated blood back to the heart.

**Heart:**

* The heart is a muscular organ with four chambers. Located just behind and slightly left of the breastbone, it pumps blood through the network of arteries and veins called the cardiovascular system.

**Organs working together:**

The lungs allow oxygen from inhaling air transfer to the bloodstream (into deoxygenated blood) as well release gaseous waste such as carbon dioxide. The oxygen carries the blood in your blood vessels to all the cells, tissues, and organs of the body.

**Questions:**

1. What are the three organs in the circulatory system?
2. How many quarters of blood does an adult have?
3. How long do the vessels in the human body measure out to?

